

# WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

## Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2011

Rich Dilks called the Wenonah Environmental Commission to order at 7:33 PM in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act at the Community Center.

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Rich Dilks (Chair)	X	
Bob Bevilacqua (V. Chair)	X	
Scott Barnes (Sec. / Planning Bd. Rep.)	X	
Bill Klaus	X	
Dave Kreck		X
Tommy Lombardo (Mayor)		X
Chris Newman		X

Associate Members Present: Frank Eggert, Chuck Forsman

Minutes of the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Klaus, AIF)

### BUSINESS

- **Chairman's Report:** In an earlier phone call, Max Pozza proposed two ideas for his Eagle Scout project: 1) borough park picnic tables, and 2) benches in the Conservation Area. Alternative ideas were put forward by members: 3) Hanisey's Landing renovation, and 4) a rain garden at the public works site. The last idea also fulfills a Sustainable New Jersey recommendation.

For the Kids' Hike on Saturday, there are only 10 children registered with 20 additional participants. For the future, Rich thinks we should consider suspending this activity or combining it with the Mad Hatter's Tree Party. Setup will start at 8:00 AM.

All 100 white pine seedlings have been planted in the Conservation Area.

Frank is working on the sign text for the Stone Pool Garden. It will be a laser-etched sign similar to the one at Synnott's Pond. Rich said that there will be a dedication ceremony during the July 4<sup>th</sup> hike.

Frank's recent anti-erosion work at Clay Hill is complete.

Rich asked whether the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Student Environmental Awards should continue. On a voice vote, it was agreed to make two cash awards of \$75 each. (Motion: Barnes, Second: Bevilacqua, AIF)

At Maple Ridge, Mantua may take ownership of the entire property; it has earmarked \$100,000 of its Open Space Tax revenue for this purpose. The Friends group is trying to get the County's 2008 land appraisal updated without paying for a whole new appraisal. New grant opportunities are being pursued. A public fundraising campaign is underway. Chuck reported that the owner, on its own initiative, has just made a second Green Acres application despite the previous denial.

Bob has finished placing all of the Stewart Estate bronze plaques.

The picnic at the June meeting will be at 6:30 PM as usual.

- **Trail Maintenance (Frank Eggert):** Frank asked why minnows are dying in the Stone Pond. There were no answers immediately available.
- **Public Relations (Scott Barnes):** Newsletter deadline is May 23<sup>rd</sup>. There will be a Maple Ridge update and a few upcoming events, nothing more.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:39 PM. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Klaus, AIF)